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ABSTRACT OF DOCUMENT BEING CROSS FILED			CROSS FILED BY
FILE NO. 100-120-2	SOURCE OPC	DATE OF DOCUMENT 14 Nov. 1950	ANALYST C D
SUBJECT Conversation with Mr. Kennan re: Panel of Consultants for National Estimates.			DATE 14 Dec. 1956
PERTINENT INFORMATION			
MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD			
<p>The following excerpt is extracted verbatim from the above referenced document:</p> <p>1. This memorandum will serve to record certain of the more important aspects of a conversation between Messrs. Kennan and Jackson, which took place in Mr. Kennan's home in Princeton, New Jersey, on the morning of Sunday, 12 November. Mr. Wisner was present at this conversation.</p> <p>2. The subject under discussion was that of the organization of a panel of high level non-governmental consultants, which would participate in and make a contribution to the development of national intelligence estimates. Mr. Jackson outlined certain proposals which General Smith and he have in mind as to the manner in which the panel for private consultants would operate, and concluded his presentation with a statement to the effect that both General Smith and he were most anxious for Mr. Kennan to serve as a member of the panel. Mr. Kennan stated that he would be very happy to serve in this capacity, and the conversation then turned to a consideration of other individuals and their qualifications.</p> <p>....</p> <p>10. Mr. Wisner asked Mr. Kennan for his estimate of the value of <u>Gustav HILGER</u> and the possible uses to which he might be put. (Dr. HILGER was brought out of Germany by OPC about a year and a half ago and has been used by OPC and State Department officials quite extensively since coming to Washington where he now is.) Mr. Kennan at first said that because of Dr. HILGER's German nationality and background he would recommend using him at arm's length and encourage him to write more. He also said at first that he would consider HILGER more useable for very broad estimates of Soviet developments rather than for specific judgments on items of day-to-day concern. Mr. Kennan later paid a very high tribute to Dr. HILGER, stating that there is no doubt whatever about his expertness concerning the Soviet Union and the fact that he is an honorable and decent individual. He said that Dr. HILGER was the leading expert on Russian affairs in the German Foreign Office before and during the first part of World War II, and that he has as deep an experience in Russian matters as any German alive. Kennan further stated that he had always been entirely decent and sympathetic toward the United States and at the risk of his own life</p>			
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had refused to become a member of the Nazi party. Mr. Kennan concluded his remarks on Dr. HILGER with a statement to the effect that he personally believed Dr. HILGER to be quite secure, but he pointed out that it would be necessary for anyone making use of him to protect themselves against charges that they were discussing secret matters with non-Americans.

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THIS IS ALL THE INFORMATION PERTINENT  
TO THE SUBJECT OF THIS DOCUMENT.

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